

New Children's & Young Adult Literature

Books for Grades 4-6

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FAMILY & FRIENDS

Beaty, Andrea. Cicada Summer. Abrams/Amulet, \$15.95 (97808810994720)

Lily has been mute for the two years since the tragic accident that took her brother's life.

Does this all change when Tinny comes to town for the summer?

Clements, Andrew. Lost and Found. illus. by Mark Elliot. Atheneum, \$16.99 (9781416909859)

When identical twins Jay and Ray move to a new school, they decide to play a trick by each going to school on alternate days. How long can they continue the guise when their personalities are so different?

Creech, Sharon. Hate That Cat. HarperCollins/Joanna Cotler, \$15.99 (9780061430923)

A companion to Love That Dog, Jack continues journaling for Mrs. Stretchberry, his fifth-grade teacher.

Davis, Katie. The Curse of Addy McMahon. Greenwillow, \$16.99 (9780061287114)

Sixth-grader Addy thinks her family is cursed, since her bad luck includes losing her father to cancer in fourth grade, having her mother's "boyfriend" move into their guest room, and having a disagreement with her best friend. Cartoon illustrations accompany.

Deriso, Christine Hurley. Talia Talk. Delacorte, \$15.99 (97803857360206)

Talia is SO embarrassed when her mother, a morning talk show host, talks about her on-air. Now that she has her own morning podcast at school, can she get some sweet revenge on Mom?

Gutman, Dan. Nightmare at the Book Fair. Simon & Schuster, \$15.99 (9781416924388)

While fifth grader Trip is helping to set up for the school's book fair, he gets hit on the head by a shelf of books, sending him into the bodies of several characters from books.

Havill, Juanita. Grow: a Novel in Verse. illus. by Stanslawia Kodman. Peachtree, \$12.95 (9781561454119)

When Berneetha converts a vacant lot to a community garden, Kate is one of the neighborhood children who helps make the plants grow. Then the owner of the land decides to build a parking garage on the lot, so what will happen to the garden? (A quick read)

Henkes, Kevin. Bird Lake Moon. HarperCollins, \$15.99 (9780061470769)

Mitch and Spencer become friends while staying on Wisconsin's Bird Lake as both deal with family problems: Mitch's parents are divorcing and Spencer's are haunted by the drowning of his older brother eight years before. (* review SLJ & BL)

Horvath, Polly. My One Hundred Adventures. Random/Schwartz & Wade, \$16.99 (9780375845826)

Jane's Pulitzer-prize-winning poet mother provides Jane and her three sibling with a simple seashore life, but Jane longs for a summer of 100 adventures. (* review-SLJ & BL)

Kessler, Liz. Philippa Fisher's Fairy Godsister. Candlewick, \$15.99 (9780763640705)

Miserable since her best friend moved away, Philippa is visited by a fairy godmother. But can the three wishes granted to her make her life more tolerable?

Mills, Claudia. The Totally Made-up Civil War Diary of Amanda MacLeish. Farrar, \$16.00 (9780374376963)

Through a school project Civil War diary, fifth grader Amanda realizes the parallels between it and her own parents' separation.

Nielsen, Susin. Word Nerd. Tundra, \$18.95 (9780887768750)

While his mother teaches at night, twelve-year-old Ambrose makes friends with a neighbor, an ex-con who shares Ambrose's love of playing Scrabble. (* review-SLJ)

Rupp, Rebecca. Sarah Simpson's Rules for Living. Candlewick, \$14.99 (9780763632205)

Writing in her journal allows Sarah to do her favorite thing--make lists! Her father is remarried, mother has a boyfriend, and school isn't going so well either. (Short, easy read)

Schaefer, Laura. The Teashop Girls. Simon & Schuster, \$15.99 (9781416967934)

Since kindergarten, best friends Annie, Genna, and Zoe have met once a week for tea. Now, at the end of eighth grade they find themselves too busy with varying interests to keep their weekly get-togethers going. (Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants for younger audience?) (First novel)

Snyder, Zilpha Keatley. The Bronze Pen. Atheneum, \$16.99 (9781416942016)

Audrey dreams of being a writer. After a mysterious woman in a cave gives her a bronze pen that has magical powers, Audrey finds her imaginary stories are coming true.

Spinelli, Jerry. Smiles to Go. Joanna Cotler, \$17.89. (9780060281342)

Will (a ninth grader) plays Scrabble and eats pepperoni pizza every Saturday night with best friends BT and Mi-Su. As a budding scientist, Will takes the news of proton disintegration very seriously. He also obsesses about kissing Mi-Su, but will BT take her away before he can put that plan into action?

Warner, Sally. It's Only Temporary. Viking, \$15.99 (9780670061112)

Skye's brother is nearly killed in a car accident, and her parents are only concentrating on him, so she is sent to live with her grandmother in California, where she tries to remind herself "it's only temporary." Tiny drawings add humor to her story.

Wilson, Jacqueline. Best Friends. Roaring Brook, \$15.95 (9781596432789)

Alice and Gemma have shared a special bond since their births on the same day at the same hospital. Now Alice is moving far away, and Gemma is worried they won't be BFF.

HISTORY COMES ALIVE

Adler, David A. Don't Talk to Me about the War. Viking, \$15.99 (9780670063079)

David, more concerned about whether his Brooklyn Dodgers win and his mother's illness progresses, resists his best friend Beth trying to tell him about the war developing in 1940s Europe.

Avi. Hard Gold: The Colorado Gold Rush of 1859. (I Witness Bks.). Hyperion, \$15.99 (9781423105190)

In order to save his family's Iowa farm from foreclosure, fourteen-year-old Early travels to Colorado in search of gold.

Avi. The Seer of Shadows. HarperCollins, \$16.99 (9780060000158)

When photographer Mr. Middleditch is hired to take pictures of well-to-do Mrs. Von Macht and finds out she is haunted by her dead daughter's ghost, he comes up with a scheme to superimpose the daughter's portrait in the background of the photos and forces his fourteen-year-old apprentice, Horace, to help him carry out the trickery.

Colfer, Eion. Airman. Hyperion, \$17.99 (9781423107507)

Set in the 1890s on an island off Ireland, Conor is imprisoned after he is accused of the king's murder. While in prison, he designs a plan to build a flying machine. Sure to be a hit with the same students as his Artemis Fowl series.

Dowell, Frances O'Roark. Shooting the Moon. S & S/Atheneum, \$16.99 (9781416926900)

While her brother is serving in Vietnam, Jamie volunteers at the local rec center, learns how to develop the photos her brother sends home and begins to question her family's military background. (* review-SLJ)

Enderle, Dotti. Man in the Moon, illus. by Kristina Swarner. Delacorte, \$14.99. (9780385735667)

Janine thinks the summer of 1961 will just be boring, with nothing to do but help take care of her sick brother. Suddenly, a mysterious man named Mr. Lunas appears, and as his name suggests, he changes with each phase of the moon.

- Lemma, Don. When the Sergeant Came Marching Home. Holiday, \$16.95 (9780823420834)
Ten-year-old Donald is excited that his father is coming home from the war in 1946. But when his father decides to move the family to the middle-of-nowhere Montana, Donald vows to run away as soon as he has enough money.
- Morpurgo, Michael. The Mozart Question. Candlewick, \$15.99 (9780763635527)
A short novel about a famous violinist whose parents survived the Holocaust and the effect it's had on him.
- Olson, Tod. How to Get Rich in the California Gold Rush: An Adventurer's Guide to the Fabulous Riches Discovered in 1848. illus. by Scott Allred. National Geographic, \$16.95 (9781426303159)
A fictionalized version of the story of Thomas Hartley's journey from Connecticut to the gold fields of California 1849-1851. (* review-SLJ)
- Pinkney, Andrea Davis. Boycott Blues: How Rosa Parks Inspired a Nation. illus. by Brian Pinkney. Greenwillow/Amistad, \$16.99 (9780060821180)
A picture book format book about the Rosa Parks story. The rhythmic text makes for a good read-aloud. Accompanied by Pinkney's splash-colorful illustrations. (* review-SLJ & BL)
- White, Ruth. Little Audrey. Farrar, \$16.00 (9780374345808)
A reminiscent look (fictionalized) at White's own family, what it was like to grow up in coal-country southwest Virginia in 1948, and the struggles her family endured due to poverty, a mentally unstable mother, and an alcoholic father. (Booklist's Best Book of the Year and * review-SLJ & BL)
- Willard, Elizabeth Kimmel. Mary Ingalls on Her Own. HarperCollins, \$15.99 (9780060009052)
To help her cope with her deafness, Mary is sent to attend the Iowa College for the Blind and learns how to deal with her disability as well as tell about what life was like at the all-girls' school in the 1880s.

ADVENTURE

- Kelsey, Marybeth. Tracking Daddy Down. HarperCollins/Greenwillow, \$16.99 (9780061288425)
Despite the fact that her father is a bank robber, Billie still adores him and is determined to find him before the police do.
- Trueman, Terry. Hurricane. HarperCollins, \$15.99. (978-0-060-00018-9)
Jose, thirteen, becomes a leader in the recovery efforts of his little Honduran village after a hurricane strikes, causing mudslides and at least fifty villagers' deaths. Based on Hurricane Mitch that struck Honduras in 1998.

ANIMALS

- Auch, Mary Jane. A Dog on His Own. Holiday, \$16.95 (9780823420889)
K-10, a shelter dog, tells about his life with other shelter dogs Pearl and Peppy and how he has to prove he IS a good, not naughty, dog at heart.
- Gibson, Sarah P. The Truth About Horses, Friends, and My life as a Coward. Marshall Cavendish, \$15.99 (9780761454595)
Sophie is determined to overcome her fear of the horses that her mother bought, at first, for her older sister.
- Howe, Peter. Waggit's Tale. illus. by Omar Rayyan. HarperCollins, \$16.99 (9780061242618)
After being abandoned, Waggit joins a pack of stray dogs, scrounging around in Central Park. Untrusting of humans, Waggit is caught and taken to the pound where, lucky for him, a compassionate woman takes him home. (Author's first novel)
- Lee, Ingrid. Dog Lost. Scholastic/The Chicken House, \$16.99 (9780545085786)
After Mackenzie's alcoholic father wins a pit bull puppy in a card game and gives it to Mackenzie, the boy's life changes; he finally has some companionship! One night, in a fit of anger, Dad takes Cash away. Is Mackenzie ever reunited with him, or does Cash suffer the fate of most pit bulls?

Lisle, Janet Taylor. Highway Cats. illus. by David Frankland. Philomel, \$14.99 (9780399250705)

Three kittens, abandoned on a busy highway, miraculously survive and join some feral cats who exist because their wooded "home" borders a mall. When bulldozers arrive to convert their home into an off-ramp, can the magical powers of the kittens prevent it? (* review-BL)

Nuzum, K. A. The Leanin' Dog. JoAnna Cotler Books, \$15.99 (9780061139345)

Ever since eleven-year-old Dessa Dean's mother freezes to death in Dessa's arms, she is afraid to leave the front porch of her cabin. So how can she help the stray dog who arrives unexpectedly? (* review-SLJ)

Seidler, Tor. Gully's Travels. illus. by Brock Cole. Scholastic/Michael di Dupua, \$16.95 (9780545025065)

Gulliver, a pampered Lhasa Apso, loves exploring Manhattan and frequently traveling to Paris. When his master becomes engaged to a French girl who is allergic to dogs, what will happen to him? (* review-SLJ & BL)

AWARD WINNERS

Appelt, Kathi. The Underneath. illus. by David Small. Atheneum, \$16.99 (9781416950585) *Newbery Honor

A hound dog named Ranger makes room for a cat and her kittens underneath the porch of a shack in an east Texas bayou.

Gaiman, Neil. The Graveyard Book. HarperCollins, \$17.99 (9780060530921) *Newbery Winner (Gr. 5-8)

When his entire family is slain, Nobody ends up in a graveyard where the ghostly inhabitants adopt him, resulting in his meeting the dead from many different time periods. (* review-BL)

Law, Ingrid. Savvy. Dial, \$16.99 (9780803733060) *Newbery Honor

Mibs is worried about her approaching thirteenth birthday, when her savvy (a special inheritance that all her family members share) will be revealed.

Nelson, Kadir. We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball. Hyperion/Jump the Sun, \$18.99 (9780786808328) (winner of Sibert Medal and Coretta Scott King Book Award)

OTHER CULTURES

Garner, Lynne. African Crafts: Fun Things to Make and Do from West Africa. Chicago Review, \$12.95 (9781556527487)

Give instructions for students to make block prints, pot coiling, maskmaking, and weaving kente strips. Includes photos taken by the author while in Ghana. (non-fiction)

Hirahara, Naomi. 1001 Cranes. Delacorte, \$15.99 (9780385735568)

While twelve-year-old Angela's parents are working out their divorce, she is sent from her San Francisco home to live with grandparents and aunt in Los Angeles. Unhappy there, she has no choice but to help make 1001 origami cranes which are sold for weddings in her grandparents' flower shop. With family support, she gradually comes to appreciate her Japanese heritage.

Marsden, Carolyn & Thay Phap Niem. The Buddha's Diamonds. Candlewick, \$14.99 (9780763633806)

Tinh wishes to gain back his father's confidence after allowing their fishing boat to float away during a storm. Based in part on Niem's childhood in Vietnam.

Medina, Meg. Milagros: Girl from Away. Holt/Christy Ottaviano Bks., \$17.95 (9780805082302)

Driven from their Caribbean island by intruding neighbors, twelve-year-old Milagros' family ends up on an island off Maine. (* review-SLJ)

Yue, Guo and Clare Farrow. Little Leap Forward: A Boy in Beijing. illus. by Helen Cann.

Barefoot, \$16.99 (9781846861147)

Based on the author's experiences during the Cultural Revolution, this tells the story of eight-year-old Leap Forward growing up in a poor area of Beijing. (chapter book) (*review SLJ)

FANTASY/SCIENCE FICTION/TIME TRAVEL

- Dyer, Heather. Ibby's Magic Weekend. Scholastic/Chicken House, \$16.99 (9780545032094)
When Ibby goes to stay with her two cousins, the three of them explore magic together. Ibby's uncle, a professional magician, has disappeared five years earlier, so Ibby tries to reverse his vanishing act and bring him back. Beginning chapter book.
- Elish, Dan. Attack of the Frozen Woodchucks. illus. by Greg Call. HarperCollins/Laura Geringer, \$17.89 (9780061138713)
Jimmy's Dad and Jimmy's two-year-old sister Imogene return from a walk in Central Park, reporting they've seen a thirty-lb. woodchuck; of course, Jimmy and his mom chalk it up to Dad's overactive imagination. But when Jimmy's dad is kidnapped, it's up to Jimmy, his two friends, and Imogene to figure out a way to find Dad and the frozen woodchucks.
- Forester, Victoria. The Girl Who Could Fly. Feiwel and Friends, \$16.95 (9780312374624)
When Piper displays a talent for flying, she is sent to a secret school to hone her skills. The author's first novel. (* review-BL)
- Haddix, Margaret Peterson. Found (#1 in Missing series). Simon & Schuster, \$15.99 (9781416954170)
When friends Chip and Jonah, both adopted, start receiving threatening letters, they discover they have a connection to a pilotless plane full of babies that mysteriously landed, then disappeared, thirteen years before.
- Hardinge, Frances. Well Witched. HarperCollins, \$16.99 (9780060880385) (* review-SLJ)
Ryan, Josh, and Chelle think no one will know the difference when they steal some coins from a wishing well, but they soon find out the witch from the well has begun payback time.
- Jean, Mark & Christopher C. Carlson. Puddlejumpers. Hyperion, \$16.99 (9781423107590)
What is the connection between Ernie Banks (named after the famous Cub), Shawn (the kidnapped "Quilt Baby"), and the eleven-inch underground water creatures known as the Puddlejumpers?
- Lincoln, Christopher. Billy Bones: Tales from the Secrets Closet. illus. by Avi Ofer. Little, Brown, \$10.99 (9780316014731)
Three skeletons (Billy Bones and his parents) live hidden in a closet in the old Biglum mansion until Millicent moves in, lets Billy out of the closet, and exposes all the hidden mysteries of the manor's residents, both past and present.
- Lowe, Helen. Thornspell. Knopf, \$15.99 (978037595558)
In this parallel to "Sleeping Beauty," Prince Sigismund longs to be a knight but has never ventured out into the woods surrounding his castle, until the day a strange woman puts a death spell on a princess, and the prince must rescue the sleeping princess. (New Zealand author, first book)
- Lynch, Chris. Cyberia. Scholastic, \$16.99 (9780545027939)
In a future world where everyone wears microchips, Zane finds out through his chipped dog Hugo, that a doctor is experimenting on an entire lab of animals.
- McKenzie, Riford. The Witches of Dredmoore Hollow. illus. by Peter Ferguson. Marshall Cavendish, \$16.99 (9780761454588)
Suddenly Elijah has two aunts he never knew he had, and they've come to get him to reverse a fifteen-year spell they've been under.
- Prineas, Sarah. The Magic Thief. HarperCollins, \$16.99 (9780061375873) (first in trilogy)
When Conn pickpockets a magic stone from Nevery (a powerful wizard), Nevery is shocked that Conn is not killed by the touch, so he decides to make Conn his apprentice,
- Reisman, Michael. Simon Bloom, the Gravity Keeper. Dutton, \$15.99 (9780525479222)
When Simon is hit in the head by the Book of Physics, he, along with outcast friend Owen and popular Alysha, discover how to defy gravity, play with friction and other Newton's laws. The experiments are fun until some despicable characters want to steal the book from him.
- Rodda, Emily. The Key to Rondo. Scholastic, \$16.99 (9780545035354)
When Leo's great aunt wills him a family heirloom music box, he knows the box comes with

rules. But then naughty cousin Mimi arrives and breaks all the rules, opening up the world of Rondo just so they can rescue Mimi's dog who's been taken by a witch.

Weston, Robert Paul. Zorgamazoo. Penguin/Razorbill, \$15.99 (9781595141996) *review
Rhyming couplets a la Dr. Seuss tell the story of Katrina Katrell who runs away from her mean guardian and meets Morty, a Zorgle, and together they go on an adventure to the moon and meet many fantastic creatures along the way. Fun for a read-aloud.

JUST FOR THE FUN OF IT

Kimmel, Elizabeth Cody. Spin the Bottle. Dial, \$16.99 (9780803731912)

Phoebe is hesitant about starting middle school, but the best part is she gets to join Drama Club. She lands a role in *Guys and Dolls* but then is afraid of what will happen when she finds out about the opening night tradition of playing the spin the bottle game.

Kinney, Jeff. Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules. Abrams/Amulet, \$12.95 (9780810994737)

Greg's journal continues as he struggles through adolescence--being on the swim team, trying out for the talent show, and dealing with his older brother Rodrick. As with the first book, comic-type illustrations are sprinkled throughout.

Korman, Gordon. Swindle. Scholastic, \$16.99 (0439903440)

Griffin finds a valuable baseball card in a house set to be demolished, but when "Swindle" (S. Wendell Palomino) tricks him into selling the card, Griff has to come up with a Big Plan to get it back. Another Korman title sure to be popular.

Kuhlman, Evan. The Last Invisible Boy. illus. by J. P. Covert. S & S/Atheneum/Ginee Seo Bks., \$16.99 (9781416957973)

Following his father's death, twelve-year-old Finn becomes more invisible every day. Full of illustrations and like *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* series. (* review-SLJ)

Lowry, Lois. The Willoughbys. illus. by the author. Houghton/Walter Lorraine, \$16.00 (9870618979745)

Four children are left with a nanny when their parents (who are trying to get rid of them) decide to take a vacation.

Margolis, Leslie. Boys Are Dogs. Bloomsbury, \$15.99 (9781599902210)

Annabelle is having some problems adjusting to sixth grade when her mother gives her a dog along with a training manual, which Annabelle also finds helpful in dealing with boys.

Moss, Marissa. Amelia's Itchy-Twitchy, Lovey-Dovey Summer at Camp Mosquito. Simon & Schuster, \$9.99 (9781416947226)

Amelia doesn't want to go to summer camp, but once she gets there, she finds it's fun, especially drawing cartoons for the camp newspaper.

Oliver, Lin. Attack of the Growling Eyeballs. Simon & Shuster, \$14.99 (9781416909514)

Living in a household of females gets tiresome for Daniel. But when he shrinks down to toe size and discovers he has a tiny twin brother, the fun begins.

MYSTERY

Alter, Stephen. Ghost Letters. Bloomsbury, \$16.95 (9781582347394)

Gil, expelled from school and sent to live with his grandfather, finds a bottle on the beach and discovers a message from a boy who lived in India a hundred years before.

Barrett, Tracy. The 100-Year-Old Secret. Holt, \$15.95 (0805083405)

Xena and Xander Holmes, descendants of Sherlock Holmes living in London, try to solve the mystery of a missing portrait.

Dowd, Siobhan. The London Eye Mystery. Random/David Fickling, \$15.99 (9780375849763)

Ted and his older sister watch their cousin Salim climb aboard the famous London Eye ferris wheel, but when the ride stops, Salim has vanished.

Giff, Patricia Reilly. Eleven. Random/Wendy Lamb, \$15.99 (9780385730693)

The night before his eleventh birthday (and already having strange dreams), Sam finds a news article with his picture, saying he was kidnapped.

Hahn, Mary Downing. All the Lovely Bad Ones: a Ghost Story. Clarion, \$16.00 (9780618854677)

Travis and younger sister Corey discover their grandmother's inn is haunted and take pleasure in playing tricks on guests, until their pranks spiral out of control.

Kehret, Peg. Stolen Children. Dutton, \$16.99 (9780525478355)

Fourteen-year-old Amy has just completed a babysitting class when she is hired to take care of three-year-old Kendra (in the absence of the regular nanny) and both girls are kidnapped.

Lanthier, Jennifer. The Mystery of the Martello Tower. HarperCollins/Laura Geringer Bks, \$16.99 (9780061257124)

Just before her twelfth birthday, Hazel and her younger brother want to find out more about their mother who died years before and their art dealer father, who has disappeared.

Mould, Chris. The Wooden Mile. (#1 in Something Wickedly Weird series). Roaring Brook, \$9.95 (9781596433830)

Eleven-year-old Stanley lives in a mansion inherited from his great uncle, who mysteriously disappeared after an encounter with a werewolf. Chapter book. (#2 in the series also available entitled The Icy Hand).

Riordan, Rick. The Maze of Bones (#1 in 39 Clues series). Scholastic, \$12.99 (9780545090544) (* review-SLJ)

The beginning of a new series which will include ten books written by different authors (#2 in the series, One False Note by Gordon Korman, has just been released). Before she died, rich matriarch Grace Cahill leaves behind 39 clues which her heirs must follow until they can solve the family mystery. Includes playing cards, game and website (www.the39clues.com).

Stewart, Paul and Chris Riddell. Curse of the Night Wolf. (#1 in Barnaby Grimes series). Random/David Fickling, \$15.99 (9780385751254)

Barnaby Grimes is a messenger in Victorian England, but when his old friend Benjamin disappears and the same night Barnaby is attacked by a wolf-like creature, Barnaby must venture into the slums to investigate.

SEQUELS/SERIES

Birdsall, Jeanne. The Penderwicks on Gardam Street. Knopf, \$15.99 (9780375840906)

The four Penderwick daughters try to stop their father from dating, even though a note from their late mother encourages it. (* review-SLJ & BL)

Boniface, William. The Great Powers Outage. (#3 in The Extraordinary Adventures of Ordinary Boy series). HarperCollins, \$16.99 (9780060774707)

Ordinary Boy tries to find out why residents of Superopolis are losing their super powers. Comic book/graphic novel format will attract reluctant readers.

DuPrau, Jeanne. The Diamond of Darkhold (fourth Book of Ember). Random House, \$16.99 (9780375955716)

The conclusion of the Ember series find the residents of Sparks struggling to make it through the winter. Doon and Lina decide to trek back to Ember to see if, since they vacated so quickly, food and supplies were left behind. When they arrive, Doon encounters the Trogg family who takes him prisoner.

Erdrich, Louise. The Porcupine Year. HarperCollins, \$15.99 (9780060297879)

Continuing the story begun in The Birchbark House and The Game of Silence, Omakaya's family has been driven from their island and now must survive brutal winters and starvation. Based on the author's own family history. (* review-SLJ & BL)

- Hershey, Mary. 10 Lucky Things That Have Happened Since I Almost Got Hit by Lightning. Random/Wendy Lamb, \$15.99 (9780385735414)
Effie (4th grader) is afraid her best friend is going to transfer from their parochial school to play basketball at the public school. Effie's father is in prison for embezzling, and she doesn't like it when her Mom invites a priest and friend of the family to move in with them. Sequel to My Big Sister Is So Bossy She Says You Can't Read This Book
- Hulme, John and Michael Wexler. The Split Second. (#2 in Seems series). Bloomsbury, \$16.99 (9781599901305)
Becker finds his life is getting harder and harder to live outside The Seems. He's obsessed with Jennifer, and then he's called in to pick up the pieces after a bomb goes off in the Department of Time.
- Jonell, Lynne. Emmy and the Home for Troubled Girls. Holt, \$17.95 (9780805081510)
Emmy's former nanny, Mrs. Barmy, is now a rat and still wreaking havoc on the residents of Rodent City.
- Lupica, Mike. Safe at Home (#3 in Comeback Kids series). Philomel, \$9.99 (9780399247163)
Nick feels like he doesn't fit in at home (with his foster parents) or on the baseball field.
- Martin, Ann and Laura Godwin. The Runaway Dolls. illus. by Brian Selznick. (#3 in Doll People series) Disney, \$16.99 (9780786855841)
Annabelle and Tiffany are joined by a new doll named Tilly May.
- Nimmo, Jenny. Charlie Bone and the Shadow. (#7 in series) Scholastic/Orchard, \$12.99 (9780439846691)
Charlie passes through a painting that takes him to a dismal place called Badland.
- Stewart, Trenton Lee. The Mysterious Benedict Society and the Perilous Journey. illus. by Diana Sudyka. Little, Brown/Megan Tingley Bks., \$16.99 (9780316057806)
The four kids from the Mysterious Benedict Society hope to be reunited with Mr. Benedict, but he has been kidnapped, leading the kids on an adventure throughout Europe.
- Wilkinson, Carole. Dragon Moon. Hyperion, \$16.99 (1423111435) (conclusion of Dragon Keeper trilogy)
Ping and Kai set out on an ancient journey to try and discover whether Kai is the last of the dragons.
- Wynne-Jones, Tim. Rex Zero, King of Nothing. (#2 in series) Farrar/Melanie Kroupa Bks., \$16.95 (9780374362591)
(* review-SLJ)
Rex finds a missing address book that leads him to a beautiful lady who is in danger.

SCHOOL DAYS (AND SPORTS, TOO)

- Barber, Tiki. Go Long! Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman, \$15.99 (9781416936190)
The Barber twins are looking forward to eighth grade and winning the football division championship again. But then their coach leaves and the star quarterback doesn't want to be a team player.
- Donofrio, Beverly. Thank You, Lucky Stars. Random/Schwartz & Wade, \$16.99 (9780375839641)
On the first day of fifth grade, Ally's best friend ignores her and takes up with the popular crowd. For lack of any other friend, Ally get acquainted the eccentric, new girl in class. Somewhat predictable triangle of friendship story, but younger girls may still identify with the characters and situations.
- Graff, Lisa. Life and Crimes of Bernetta Wallflower. HarperCollins/Laura Geringer, \$15.99 (9780060875930)
Since Bernetta is an assistant in her father's magician act, she is accused of organizing a cheating ring at school. Even her best friend doesn't believe she's innocent.

- Mercado, Nancy E., ed. Baseball Crazy: Ten Short Stories That Cover All the Bases. Dial, \$16.99 (9780803731622)
Brief stories about baseball from noted authors like Jerry Spinelli, Sue Corbett, John H. Ritter, and Joseph Bruchac.
- Preller, James. Six Innings. Feiwel and Friends, \$16.95 (9780312367633) (* review-BL)
Explores, from the viewpoints of the players on the two teams, a six-inning Little League game.
- Ramthun, Bonnie. The White Gates. Random, \$16.99 (9780375845543)
Snowboarding and mystery combine in this story of Tor and his mother, who is hired as a physician in a Colorado resort town.
- Smith, Charles R., Jr. Winning Words: Sports Stories and Photographs. Candlewick, \$17.99 (9780763614454)
Six sports stories dealing with baseball, gymnastics, football, soccer, karate and basketball accompanied by action photographs. Good read-aloud
- Sonnenblick, Jordan. Dodger and Me. Feiwel & Friends, \$16.95 (9780312377939)
A blue fuzzy four-foot chimpanzee appears to Willie. Is he a genie who will grant him wishes? Help him with his pathetic baseball game? Cause him more trouble than it's worth or actually become his friend?

BIOGRAPHY

- Bolden, Tanya. George Washington Carver. Abrams, \$18.95 (9780810993662) (* review-SLJ)
- Bryant, Jen. A River of Words: The Story of William Carlos Williams, illus. by Melissa Sweet. Eerdmans, \$17.00 (9780802853028)
- Delano, Marfe Ferguson. Helen's Eyes: A Photobiography of Annie Sullivan, Helen Keller's Teacher. National Geographic, \$17.95 (9781426302091)
- Demi. Marco Polo. illus. by the author. Marshall Cavendish, \$19.99 (9780761454335) (* review-SLJ)
- Denenberg, Barry. Lincoln Shot: A President's Life Remembered. illus. by Christopher Bing. Feiwel & Friends, \$24.95 (9780312370138)
A special edition of "The National News," published a year after Lincoln's death. Large format. (Other new books on Lincoln for younger and older readers listed in *Booklist*, 9/15/08, pp. 52-53, in celebration of Lincoln's 200th birthday)
- Fleischman, Sid. The Trouble Begins at 8: A Life of Mark Twain in the Wild, Wild West. Greenwillow, \$18.99 (9780061344312)
This title comes from Twain's posters advertising his appearances: "Doors open at 7. The trouble begins at 8." (* review-SLJ & BL)
- Fleming, Candace. The Lincolns: A Scrapbook Look at Abraham and Mary. Random/Schwartz, \$24.99 (9780375836183)
- Fradin, Dennis Brindell. Duel! Walker, \$16.95 (9780802795830)
The story of the famous fight between Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr, told in picture book informational format.
- Friedman, Laurie. Angel Girl. Carolrhoda, \$16.95 (9780822587392)
Based on a true story, this is a Holocaust tale of a young girl who appears across the fence from Nazi prisoner Herman Rosenblat and grows into a love story.
- Gitlin, Marty. Jeff Gordon: Racing's Brightest Star. Enslow, \$31.93 (9780766029972)
Attractive format--lots of photos and Did You Know sidebars--tells the story of race star driver Jeff Gordon. From the series Heroes of Racing; also in the series are Dale Earnhardt, Jr., Tony Stewart, and Mark Martin.

- Halfmann, Janet. Seven Miles to Freedom: The Robert Smalls Story. illus. by Duane Smith. Lee & Low, \$17.95 (9781600602320)
Tells the story of Robert Smalls, a slave who became the first African-American to become captain of a U.S. vessel.
- Hatkoff, Craig. Looking for Miza: The True Story of the Mountain Gorilla Family Who Rescued One of Their Own. Scholastic, \$16.99 (9780545099271)
- Imbriaco, Alison. The California Condor. Enslow, \$33.27 (9781598450439)
- Krensky, Stephen. A Man for All Seasons: the Life of George Washington Carver. illus. by Wil Clay. Collins, \$16.99 (9780060278854)
- Lasky, Kathryn. One Beetle Too Many: the Extraordinary Adventures of Charles Darwin. illus. by Matthew Trueman. Candlewick, \$17.99 (9780763614362)
This year is also the 200th birthday of Darwin. (See special listing of biographies about him in Booklist, Jan. 1 & 15, 2009, p. 68)
- Rappaport, Doreen. Abe's Honest Words: The Life of Abraham Lincoln. illus. by Kadir Nelson. Hyperion, \$16.99 (9781423104081)
- Sandler, Martin W. Lincoln Through the Lens: How Photography Revealed and Shaped an Extraordinary Life. Walker, \$19.99 (9780802796660)
A combination of the history of photography, details of Lincoln's life, and a look at events during that time period.
- Scieszka, Jon. Knucklehead: Tall Tales and Mostly True Stories About Growing Up Scieszka. Viking, \$16.99 (9780670011063); pap. \$12.99 (9780670011384)
A collection of humorous stories based on Scieszka's life, including tales of doing chores, wearing recycled Halloween costumes and other hand-me-downs, attending Catholic and military schools.
- Tanaka, Shelley. Amelia Earhart: the Legend of the Lost Aviator. Abrams, \$18.95 (9780810970953)
(* review-BL)

NON-FICTION

- Bradley, Timothy J. Paleo Bugs: Survival of the Creepiest. Chronicle, \$15.99 (9780811860222)
- Cherry, Lynne. & Gary Braasch. How We Know What We Know About our Changing Climate: Scientists and Kids Explore Global Warming. Dawn, \$17.95 (9781584691037)
- Cobb, Vicki & Kathy Darling. We Dare You!: Hundreds of Science Bets, Challenges, and Experiments You Can Do at Home. illus. by True Kelley, Meredith Johnson, & Stella Ormai. Skyhorse, \$19.95 (9781602392250)
- D'Aluisio, Faith and Peter Menzel. What the World Eats. Tricycle, \$22.99 (9781582462462)
- Dodge, Abigail Johnson. Around the World Cookbook. DK, \$19.99 (9780756637446)
- Fradin, Dennis Brindell. Duell!: Burr and Hamilton's Deadly War of Words. Walker, \$16.95 (9780802795830)
- Freedman, Russell. Washington at Valley Forge. Holiday House, \$24.95 (9780823420698)
- George, Jean Craighead. Wolves Are Back. Dutton, \$16.99 (9780525479475)
- Giovanni, Nikki, ed. Hip Hop Speaks to Children: A Celebration of Poetry with a Beat. (w/CD) Sourcebooks/Jabberwocky, \$19.99 (9781402210488)
- Haas, Robert B. African Critters. National Geographic, \$17.95 (97814263031)
- Hong, Chen Jiang. Mao and Me. illus. by the author. Enchanted Lion, \$19.95 (9781592700790)
Tells the story of a young boy growing up during the Cultural Revolution.
- Johnston, Tony. P Is for Pinata: A Mexican Alphabet. illus. by John Parra. Sleeping Bear, \$17.95 (9781585361441)

- Johnston, Tony. Voice from Afar: Poems of Peace. illus. by Susan Guevara. Holiday, \$16.95 (9780823420124)
In picture book format, this book of poems is not just about peace but about the horrors of war.
- Kennett, David. Pharaoh: Life and Afterlife of a God. Walker, \$18.95 (9780802795670)
- Lewis, J. Patrick and Paul B. Janeczko. Birds on a Wire. illus. by Gary Lippincott. Boyds Mills/Wordsong, \$17.95 (9781590783832)
Features the Japanese verse form called renga where two or more poets take turns, each playing off the previous verse. (* review-BL)
- Lipse, Jennifer. I Love to Draw Horses! illus. by author. Sterling/Lark, \$9.95 (9781600591525)
Starts with general shape of horses, then shows them in various positions (trotting, jumping, rearing, etc.). Includes drawing specific breeds, like Appaloosa, Shetland, etc.
- Markle, Sandra. Animal Heroes: True Rescue Stories. Lerner/Millbrook, \$29.27 (9780822578840)
- Marx, Trish. Elephants and Golden Thrones: Inside China's Forbidden City. Abrams, \$18.95 (9780810994850)
- Mason, Adrienne, ed. Robots: From Everyday to Out of this World. Kids Can, \$16.95 (9781554532032)
Describes robots used for both work/play and what's in the future.
- National Children's Book and Literacy Alliance. Our White House; Looking In, Looking Out, illus. by authors. Candlewick, \$35.00 (9780763620677)
- Prelutsky, Jack. Pizza, Pigs, and Poetry: How to Write a Poem. Greenwillow, \$16.99; pb \$5.99 (9780061434488)
- Rappaport, Doreen. Lady Liberty: a Biography. illus. by Matt Tavares. Candlewick, \$17.99 (9780763625306)
Story of the Statue of Liberty from planning to completion, told in picture book format.
- Reilly, Kathleen M. Planet Earth: 25 Environmental Projects You Can Build Yourself. Nomad, \$21.95 (9781934670057); paper \$14.95 (9781934670040)
- Sauvant, Henriette. Rapunzel and Other Magic Fairy Tales. Tr. by Anthea Bell. Egmont, \$15.95 (1405227028)
- Schulman, Janet. Pale Male: Citizen Hawk of New York City. illus by Meilo So. Random House, \$16.99 (9780375845581)
A red-tail hawk becomes the center of attention in Central Park in 1991 in this book whose text is accompanied by stark watercolors.
- Smith, Charles R., Jr. The Mighty 12: Superheroes of Greek Myth. Little, Brown, \$16.99 (9780316010436)
- Warrick, Karen Clemens. Alamo: Victory or Death on the Texas Frontier. Enslow, \$23.95 (9780766029378)
- Winters, Kay. Colonial Voices: Hear The Speak. Dutton, \$17.99 (9780525478720)
- Woog, Adam. YouTube. Norwood, \$18.95 (9781599531984)

HOT OFF THE PRESS IN 2009

- Carman, Patrick. Skeleton Creek. Scholastic, \$14.99 (9780545075664)
What really happened the night Ryan and Sarah went out to the abandoned gold mine dredge, and what does it have to do with Joe Bush who was accidentally killed there years ago?
- Haddix, Margaret Peterson. Seen (#2 in Missing series). Simon & Schuster, 15.99 (9781416954224)
The missing children are thrust back into time--to 1483 London--and learn they are the missing princes of the Tower of London.

Kinney, Jeff. Diary of a Wimpy Kid: the Last Straw. Amulet Books, \$12.95 (9780810970687)

Greg tries to avoid his father's attempts at ending his wimpiness, until his father threatens to send him to military school.

Mass, Wendy. 11 Birthdays. Scholastic, \$16.99 (0780545052399)

Amanda has spent all her birthdays with best friend Leo, but not this year. When she wakes up the day after her eleventh birthday, she finds the day is a repeat of her birthday....the next day repeating.....repeating..... (remember Groundhog Day?) (* review-BL)

Patron, Susan. Lucky Breaks. Athenum/Ginee Seo, \$16.99 (9781416939986)

Lucky plans her eleventh birthday party in this sequel to The Higher Power of Lucky.

Woodson, Jacqueline. Peace, Locomotion. Putnam, \$15.99 (9780399246555) (* review-SLJ)

Continuing the story of Locomotion, Lonnie is writing letters to his sister Lili, who is living in a different foster home.